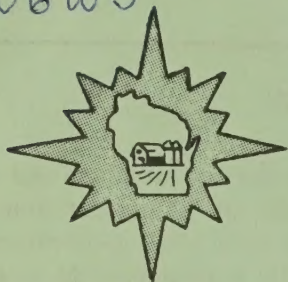


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# WISCONSIN *Farm Reporter*

- Dairy
- Crops
- Livestock

Vol. XIII, No. 6

April 1981

## Cream of the News

Milk production on Wisconsin farms during March was up 3 percent from a year earlier, while the National production increased 4 percent.

Wholesale prices of butter and cheese for March were down from the previous month.

Weekly estimates for March indicated that butter and American cheese production in Wisconsin and the Nation continued substantially above last year.

Milk prices received by Wisconsin farmers in March were 2 cents below February but \$1.15 more than a year ago.

Cold storage stocks of butter in the Nation at the end of March were the highest since June 1963 and cheese stocks were the highest ever for a March 31 date.

The index of prices received by Wisconsin farmers as of mid-March declined 2 points from a month earlier, but the prices paid index increased 2 points.

Season average prices for Wisconsin crops produced in 1980 were up from 1979, with corn, oats, and soybeans setting record highs.

Cash receipts from the sale of Wisconsin livestock during 1980 were down 3 percent from 1979 as prices were lower for all species except lambs.

Cattle and calves on feed in the Nation as of April 1 were 4 percent under a year ago and the lowest for that date since 1975.

Cold storage stocks of red meat in the Nation at the end of March were up 11 percent from the previous year, while poultry stocks increased 3 percent.

Feeder pig prices in Wisconsin during February were \$9.00 higher than a year earlier.

Wisconsin's 1980 wool production was 17 percent larger than in 1979 and the biggest wool crop since 1972.

Cattle and hog prices at Wisconsin markets in March were below the previous month.

## MARCH MILK PRODUCTION HIGHER

Milk production on Wisconsin farms during March totaled 1,978 million pounds, an increase of 3 percent from a year earlier. Output per cow for March averaged 1,085 pounds, up 25 pounds from March 1980. There were 1,823,000 milk cows on Wisconsin farms during March, an increase of 10,000 cows from last year and the highest number since February 1973. The State's milk production for the first quarter of 1981 was 2.3 percent more than in that period of 1980.

Milk production in the Nation during March totaled 11.4 billion pounds, a gain of 4 percent from a year ago. Production per cow averaged 1,052 pounds in March, 36 pounds above the previous year. The 10.9 million milk cows on farms during March were 1 percent more than a year earlier. Grains and other concentrates fed to milk cows on April 1 averaged 16.1 pounds, the same as on that date in 1980. The value of grains and other concentrates fed to milk cows on April 1 averaged \$8.30 a hundredweight, up \$1.27 from last year. During the first quarter of this year, the Nation's milk production was up 3.3 percent from that quarter in 1980.

Milk Production

Selected States	March 1980	March 1981	Jan.-Mar. 1981	Change from last year	
				March	Jan.-Mar.
	Million pounds			Percent	
Wisconsin . . .	1,922	1,978	5,565	+ 3	+ 2
Minnesota . . .	859	949	2,599	+ 10	+ 8
New York . . .	954	983	2,769	+ 3	+ 2
Pennsylvania . .	706	748	2,168	+ 6	+ 4
California . . .	1,095	1,176	3,314	+ 7	+ 5
Other states . .	5,410	5,592	15,843	+ 3	+ 3
United States . .	10,946	11,426	32,258	+ 4	+ 3

## MILK PRICE DOWN SLIGHTLY IN MARCH

Milk prices received by Wisconsin farmers for March were expected to average \$13.60 a hundredweight, a decline of 2 cents from February. Last year the March milk price averaged \$12.45 a hundredweight.

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Milk prices during February averaged \$13.62 a hundredweight, 1 cent below the previous month but \$1.29 above a year ago. Milkfat content averaged 3.76 percent compared with 3.81 percent in February 1980.

Grade A market milk brought an average of \$13.78 a hundredweight during February, down 1 cent from January but \$1.29 more than a year earlier. Manufacturing grade milk averaged \$13.25 a hundredweight for February, a decline of 2 cents from the previous month but \$1.27 higher than last year.

The 3.5 percent base price for manufacturing grade milk in February was \$12.80 a hundredweight, the same as the government support price. Dairy price support levels will remain at \$12.80 for 3.5 percent milk during the next six months.

Milk Prices 1/

Selected States	January 1981		February price per cwt.			March 1981 price per cwt. 2/
	Average test	Price per cwt.	1980	1981	81/80 change	
	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars
Milk for all uses						
Wisconsin . . . .	3.79	13.63	12.33	13.62	+ 10	13.60
Minnesota . . . .	3.71	13.34	11.96	13.22	+ 11	13.20
New York . . . .	3.73	14.00	12.50	13.90	+ 11	13.60
California . . . .	3.76	13.90	12.50	13.80	+ 10	13.30
United States . . .	3.77	14.10	12.80	14.00	+ 9	13.90
Wisconsin utilization						
Market milk . . .	3.78	13.79	12.49	13.78	+ 10	XXX
Manufacturing milk	3.81	13.27	11.98	13.25	+ 11	XXX
Creameries . . .	3.80	13.28	11.83	13.25	+ 12	XXX
Cheese factories .	3.81	13.29	12.00	13.26	+ 11	XXX
Varied prod. plants	3.81	13.14	11.86	13.13	+ 11	XXX

1/Preliminary average buying prices received for milk of average test. They differ from basic buying prices which are for 3.5% milk. 2/Based on preliminary information for milk of average test.

Wisconsin 3.5 Test Milk Prices 1/

Utilization	February 1980	January 1981	February 1981 2/	Change from last year
	Dollars per cwt.			Percent
Market milk . . . . .	12.04	13.32	13.36	+ 11
Manufacturing milk . . . . .	11.53	12.78	12.80	+ 11
Creameries . . . . .	11.38	12.81	12.82	+ 13
American cheese plants . . . . .	11.52	12.79	12.78	+ 11
Varied products plants . . . . .	11.43	12.65	12.68	+ 11
Federal Order Markets				
Chicago Regional Base Zone . . .	11.89	13.13	13.16	+ 11

1/Computed using milkfat differential. 2/Preliminary.

## — PUBLISHED MONTHLY —

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## BUTTER AND CHEESE STOCKS WELL ABOVE YEAR AGO

Cold storage stocks of butter in the Nation at the end of March totaled 394.3 million pounds, up 82 percent from a year earlier and the highest since June 1963. Government stocks of butter amounted to 342.9 million pounds, an increase of 96 percent from March 31, 1980. Wisconsin had 43.7 million pounds of butter in cold storage, 46 percent more than a year ago.

Cheese stocks in the Nation at the end of March totaled 586.2 million pounds, up 18 percent from last year and the highest ever for that date. American cheese in cold storage amounted to 496.2 million pounds, 28 percent more than on March 31, 1980. The Government owned nearly 76 million pounds of American cheese compared with only 3 million pounds a year ago. Stocks of American cheese in Wisconsin totaled 208.7 million pounds at the end of March, down 1 percent from the previous year.

Swiss cheese stocks in the Nation on March 31 were 1 percent below a year earlier, while all other cheese stocks were down 18 percent.

Cold Storage Stocks of Butter and Cheese

Commodity	March 31 1979	March 31 1980	March 31 1981	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds			Percent
	UNITED STATES			
Butter . . . . .	210,073	217,155	394,334	+ 82
Cheese, American . . . .	362,980	387,704	496,151	+ 28
Cheese, Swiss . . . . .	12,067	12,401	12,313	- 1
Cheese, all other . . . .	73,517	95,042	77,728	- 18
Cheese, total . . . . .	448,564	495,147	586,192	+ 18
	WISCONSIN			
Butter . . . . .	28,040	30,033	43,702	+ 46
Cheese, American . . . .	190,516	210,258	208,652	- 1
	GOVERNMENT STOCKS*			
Butter . . . . .	177,924	175,293	342,858	+ 96
Cheese, American . . . .	3,231	3,077	75,898	XXX

\*Included in above totals.

Manufacturers' Stocks of Other Dairy Products, United States

Commodity	Feb. 28 1979	Feb. 29 1980	Feb. 28 1981	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds			Percent
Dried whole milk . . . . .	4,562	4,595	5,089	+ 11
Dried skim milk . . . . .	41,835	82,326	93,124	+ 13
Dried buttermilk . . . . .	4,835	9,538	10,693	+ 12
Condensed milk and evaporated milk (case goods) 1/ . . .	56,360	73,889	36,871	- 50

1/Combined to avoid disclosing individual plant operations.

## FEBRUARY CHEESE AND BUTTER PRODUCTION ABOVE YEAR AGO

Cheese and butter production in Wisconsin and the Nation during February continued higher than the previous year. Dairy plants in Wisconsin churned 26.8 million pounds of butter in February, an increase of 5 percent from a year earlier. The Nation's butter output was up 11 percent from February 1980. Minnesota increased its butter production 2 percent, California was up 8 percent, and other states had a gain of 18 percent.



The Nation's total cheese production during February was 6 percent more than a year ago. American cheese production increased 12 percent while Brick and Muenster output was up 9 percent. Production of both Swiss and Italian cheese in February was down 1 percent from last year, and all other cheese had a decline of 10 percent.

Wisconsin produced 81.3 million pounds of American cheese during February, 10 percent more than a year earlier. Output of American cheese in Minnesota was up 13 percent, Iowa had a gain of 8 percent, and other states were 15 percent higher than in February 1979.

Production of curd and creamed cottage cheese in the Nation for February was below the previous year but lowfat cottage cheese production continued higher. Wisconsin's ice cream output in February was equal to a year earlier, but the National production increased 1 percent.

#### Current Dairy Products Estimates

Item and area	Feb. 1980	Feb. 1981	Jan-Feb 1981	Change from last year	
				Feb.	Jan-Feb
	1,000 pounds			Percent	
BUTTER					
Wisconsin . . . . .	25,500	26,800	56,500	+ 5	+ 11
Minnesota . . . . .	13,310	13,540	28,155	+ 2	+ 9
California . . . . .	14,800	16,000	34,000	+ 8	+ 5
Other states . . . . .	45,471	53,795	112,807	+ 18	+ 20
United States . . . . .	99,081	110,135	231,462	+ 11	+ 14
CHEESE, AMERICAN					
Wisconsin . . . . .	73,600	81,300	171,700	+ 10	+ 15
Minnesota . . . . .	36,940	41,575	85,835	+ 13	+ 14
Iowa . . . . .	7,327	7,915	16,825	+ 8	+ 13
Other states . . . . .	58,661	67,351	135,961	+ 15	+ 14
United States . . . . .	176,528	198,141	410,321	+ 12	+ 14
CHEESE, MISCELLANEOUS					
United States					
Swiss . . . . .	16,217	15,977	34,345	- 1	+ 1
Brick and Muenster . . . . .	5,500	6,017	12,877	+ 9	n. c.
Italian . . . . .	78,090	76,956	162,092	- 1	+ 2
All other . . . . .	21,542	19,428	40,808	- 10	- 6
Total . . . . .	121,349	118,378	250,122	- 2	n. c.
ALL CHEESE					
United States . . . . .	297,877	316,519	660,443	+ 6	+ 9
OTHER PRODUCTS					
Cottage Cheese					
United States					
Curd 1/ . . . . .	55,215	51,094	103,108	- 7	- 6
Creamed 2/ . . . . .	68,504	59,534	122,972	- 13	- 9
Lowfat 3/ . . . . .	14,026	14,945	29,516	+ 7	+ 9
	1,000 gallons			Percent	
Ice Cream					
Wisconsin . . . . .	1,400	1,400	2,850	n. c.	+ 8
Illinois . . . . .	3,010	2,610	5,210	- 13	- 11
Iowa . . . . .	1,017	975	1,805	- 4	- 11
Michigan . . . . .	2,700	2,100	4,400	- 22	- 15
Minnesota . . . . .	2,660	3,015	5,155	+ 13	- 2
Other states . . . . .	48,524	49,665	94,409	+ 2	- 1
United States . . . . .	59,311	59,765	113,829	+ 1	- 2

1/Mostly used for processing into creamed or lowfat cottage cheese. 2/Fat content 4 percent or more. 3/Fat content less than 4 percent.

#### WHOLESALE PRICES LOWER FOR BUTTER AND CHEESE

Wholesale prices of butter and cheese for March were down from the previous month. The 92-score butter price at New York averaged 153.50 cents a pound during March, slightly below February but nearly 17 cents above last year.

Cheddar cheese in 40 pound blocks averaged 138.75 cents a pound at Wisconsin assembly points during March, a decline of one-half cent from a month earlier but more than 9 cents above March 1980.

Swiss cheese, Wisconsin State Brand, averaged \$1.91 a pound for March. This was three-fourths cent lower than in February but up more than 24 cents from a year ago.

National evaporated milk averaged \$21.70 a case in March, an increase of 29 cents from the previous month and \$2.50 higher than last year.

Nonfat dry milk prices averaged 93.44 cents a pound during March, nearly the same as in February but 9.2 cents above the previous year.

#### Wholesale Dairy Prices

Commodity	March 1980	February 1981	March 1981
Butter, 92-score, New York, pound . .	136.69¢	153.66¢	153.50¢
Cheese, Cheddars, Wisconsin primary markets, 40 lb. block, pound 1/ . . .	129.60¢	139.25¢	138.75¢
Cheese, Swiss, Wisconsin State Brand, block, pound 1/ . . . . .	166.73¢	191.74¢	191.00¢
National evaporated milk, case, 48 13-fluid-oz. cans . . . . .	\$19.20	\$21.41	\$21.70
Nonfat dry milk solids, spray, Chicago area, pound . . . . .	84.24¢	93.50¢	93.44¢

1/Selling prices, f.o.b. at Wisconsin assembly points.

#### CHEESE AND BUTTER OUTPUT CONTINUES ABOVE YEAR AGO

Weekly estimates for March indicated that production of American cheese and butter in Wisconsin and the Nation would remain substantially higher than last year. Butter production in the Nation during March was about 13 percent more than a year earlier, nearly equalling the 14 percent gain shown for January and February. Wisconsin's output of butter in March averaged a little less than the 11 percent increase for January and February.

The Nation's American cheese production during March was about 15 percent more than a year ago, comparable to the gain for January and February. American cheese production in Wisconsin for March averaged about 10 percent higher than the previous year. The State's American cheese output for January and February was up 15 percent from those months in 1980.

#### Recent Changes in Butter and Cheese Output

Periods	Butter			American Cheese		
	United States		Wisconsin	United States		Wisconsin
	Production 1981	Change from last year	Change from last year	Production 1981	Change from last year	Change from last year
	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent
February . . . . .	110,135	+ 11	+ 5	198,141	+ 12	+ 10
Jan.-Feb. . . . .	231,462	+ 14	+ 11	410,321	+ 14	+ 15
Weeks ending						
Mar. 5 . . . . .	27,000	+ 18	+ 18	50,800	+ 19	+ 14
Mar. 12 . . . . .	26,100	+ 18	+ 7	50,300	+ 18	+ 14
Mar. 19 . . . . .	25,600	+ 11	+ 5	50,500	+ 15	+ 10
Mar. 26 . . . . .	26,000	+ 10	+ 4	51,500	+ 13	+ 8
April 2 . . . . .	26,500	+ 11	+ 10	51,800	+ 12	+ 7
Total . . . . .	131,200	+ 13	XXX	254,900	+ 15	XXX

#### PRICES RECEIVED INDEX LOWER AS OF MID-MARCH

The index of prices received by Wisconsin farmers as of mid-March was down 2 points from a month earlier. Prices of



most commodities declined except for sheep, lambs, oats, and hay. At 290 percent of the 1967 base, the prices received index was 25 points (9 percent) above a year ago.

The index of prices paid increased 2 points from February to March. Contributing most to the increase were higher costs for fertilizer, agri-chemicals, farm machinery, and energy. At 306 percent of the 1967 base, the prices paid index was 32 points (12 percent) higher than on March 15, 1980.

Milk cows averaged \$1,210.00 per head in March, down \$10.00 from the previous month but \$20.00 above last year. Calves brought \$97.40 a hundredweight as of mid-March, a decline of 30 cents from February and \$12.60 below a year earlier.

Steers and heifers averaged \$55.00 a hundredweight in March, down \$2.50 from February and \$11.00 less than the previous year. Slaughter cows, at an average of \$44.20 a hundredweight for mid-March, were 90 cents below the previous month and \$5.90 under last year.

Hog prices dropped \$3.80 from February to March. However, the mid-March average of \$37.20 a hundredweight was \$4.20 higher than a year ago.

Sheep averaged \$20.50 a hundredweight on March 15th, the same as a month earlier and 50 cents more than on that date in 1980. Lambs returned an average of \$55.00 a hundredweight in March, up \$1.00 from February but \$10.50 below last year.

Turkey prices averaged 39 cents a pound liveweight for mid-March, down 3 cents from the previous month. Eggs brought 46.4 cents a dozen in March, 2 cents below the February price but slightly more than on March 15, 1980.

Wheat averaged \$3.90 a bushel in March, the first time since September 1980 that wheat prices fell below \$4.00. Wheat declined 17 cents from February to March, but it was 40 cents above a year ago.

Corn prices averaged \$3.02 a bushel as of March 15th, down 3 cents from a month earlier but 78 cents higher than last year. Oats reached a record price of \$1.77 a bushel in March, a gain of 4 cents from February and 37 cents more than the previous year.

Soybeans declined 10 cents from February to March. At \$6.80 a bushel, soybeans were \$1.35 above March 15, 1980. Baled alfalfa hay averaged \$46.50 a ton in March, the highest price since the spring of 1978. Hay was up \$1.00 from February and \$13.50 more than a year ago.

Prices Received by Wisconsin Farmers

Commodity	Unit	Month of March 1979	Month of March 1980	February 15 1981	March 15 1981
Dollars					
Milk cows . . . . .	Head	950.00	1,190.00	1,220.00	1,210.00
Steers and heifers . .	Cwt.	71.00	66.00	57.50 1/	55.00
Cows, slaughter . . .	Cwt.	54.80	50.10	45.10 1/	44.20
Calves . . . . .	Cwt.	116.00	110.00	97.70 1/	97.40
Hogs . . . . .	Cwt.	48.10	33.00	41.00 1/	37.20
Sheep . . . . .	Cwt.	20.50	20.00	20.50	20.50
Lambs . . . . .	Cwt.	63.00	65.50	54.00	55.00
Turkeys . . . . .	Lb.	2/	2/	.420	.390
Eggs . . . . .	Doz.	.533	.460	.484	.464
Corn . . . . .	Bu.	2.13	2.24	3.05 1/	3.02
Wheat . . . . .	Bu.	3.12	3.50	4.07	3.90
Oats . . . . .	Bu.	1.20	1.40	1.73 1/	1.77
Soybeans . . . . .	Bu.	6.93	5.45	6.90	6.80
Alfalfa hay, baled	Ton	35.50	33.00	45.50	46.50

1/Average for the month. 2/Insufficient sales to establish price.

## WOOL PRODUCTION INCREASED IN 1980

Wool production in Wisconsin and the Nation during 1980 was higher than the previous year. Wisconsin's 1980 wool crop of 848,000 pounds was up 17 percent from 1979 and the largest since 1972. For the second consecutive year, Wisconsin had the greatest percentage increase for any state. There were 113,000 sheep shorn in Wisconsin during 1980, an increase of 20,000 head from 1979. Fleece weight averaged 7.5 pounds per head last year, a slight decline from the 1979 average of 7.8 pounds. Wool prices averaged 72 cents a pound in Wisconsin for 1980, the same as a year earlier. With production higher, the value of Wisconsin's 1980 wool crop increased to \$611,000.

Shorn wool production in the Nation during 1980 totaled 105.5 million pounds, 1 percent more than in 1979. The average weight per fleece of 7.96 pounds was a little below the 1979 average of 8.02 pounds. There were 13.2 million sheep shorn in the Nation during 1980, an increase of 181,000 head from the previous year. Prices of shorn wool continued to increase in 1980. Wool producers received an average price of 88 cents a pound, about 2 cents more than in 1979. Total value of shorn wool for the Nation in 1980 was nearly \$93 million, 3 percent above a year earlier. Texas was the leading wool producing state with 18.3 million pounds in 1980, well ahead of California's 10.5 million pounds.

Wool Production

State	Number of sheep shorn 1/		Weight per fleece 2/		Production		
	1979	1980	1979	1980	1979	1980	Change from last year
	1,000 head		Pounds		1,000 pounds		Percent
Arizona . .	350	326	7.2	7.1	2,511	2,329	- 7
California .	1,364	1,402	7.7	7.5	10,503	10,478	n. c.
Colorado . .	1,130	1,100	7.6	7.6	8,533	8,338	- 2
Idaho . . .	473	477	10.5	10.1	4,971	4,835	- 3
Illinois . .	181	189	7.1	7.0	1,286	1,327	+ 3
Indiana . .	121	117	7.3	7.2	883	846	- 4
Iowa . . . .	453	475	7.3	7.2	3,328	3,427	+ 3
Kansas . . .	245	227	7.3	7.5	1,784	1,699	- 5
Michigan . .	118	122	7.9	7.8	934	950	+ 2
Minnesota .	252	265	7.7	7.3	1,933	1,945	+ 1
Missouri . .	127	133	7.3	7.1	928	942	+ 2
Montana . .	510	524	9.7	9.8	4,970	5,156	+ 4
Nebraska . .	235	260	6.7	6.7	1,586	1,748	+ 10
Nevada . . .	109	108	10.3	10.0	1,123	1,080	- 4
New Mexico .	545	555	9.1	9.2	4,978	5,080	+ 2
New York . .	55	56	7.2	7.4	396	414	+ 5
North Dakota	175	207	9.7	9.6	1,704	1,981	+ 16
Ohio . . . .	345	313	7.4	7.3	2,552	2,290	- 11
Oklahoma . .	86	89	7.6	7.2	650	645	- 1
Oregon . . .	565	555	6.7	7.0	3,777	3,880	+ 3
Pennsylvania	93	98	7.1	6.9	660	676	+ 2
South Dakota	765	755	8.9	9.2	6,818	6,982	+ 2
Texas . . . .	2,720	2,700	7.0	6.8	19,075	18,300	- 4
Utah . . . .	563	595	10.2	10.0	5,717	5,923	+ 4
Virginia . .	145	146	6.3	6.4	914	934	+ 2
Washington	76	80	9.0	9.7	683	779	+ 14
West Virginia	105	107	5.9	5.8	620	621	n. c.
Wisconsin . .	93	113	7.8	7.5	724	848	+ 17
Wyoming . .	952	1,040	10.0	9.8	9,516	10,205	+ 7
Other States	117	115	6.9	6.9	803	794	- 1
United States	13,068	13,249	8.02	7.96	104,860	105,452	+ 1

1/Includes shearing at commercial feeding yards. 2/For Texas and California the weight per fleece is the amount of wool shorn per sheep and lamb during the year.



## CROP PRICES UP IN 1980

Season average prices for Wisconsin crops produced in 1980 were higher than in 1979. Season average prices are computed by weighting monthly prices by the estimated percent sold each month. For 1980, monthly prices were weighted by estimated sales through February 1981 with an allowance for marketings during the remainder of the marketing season.

Corn prices for the 1980 marketing season averaged \$3.10 a bushel, up 67 cents from 1979 and 2 cents more than the previous high in 1974. The production value of the 1980

corn crop exceeded one billion dollars for the first time.

Prices for oats averaged a record high of \$1.60 a bushel for 1980, an increase of 30 cents from the previous year. Wheat averaged \$3.85 a bushel, 15 cents more than the 1979 crop and the highest since 1974. Barley prices averaged \$2.30 a bushel for 1980, a gain of 25 cents from 1979 and also the highest since 1974.

Soybeans averaged a record high of \$7.40 a bushel for the 1980 marketing season, an increase of \$1.43 from 1979. Hay averaged \$39.50 a ton for 1980, up \$8.50 from a year earlier but well below the record price of \$70.00 a ton in 1976.

FIELD CROPS: Production, Disposition, and Value, Wisconsin, 1979-80

Crops and years	Production	Used on farms where produced	Sold	Sales as percent of production	Season average price per bushel	Value	
						Production	Sales
	1,000 bushels			Percent	Dollars	1,000 dollars	
Corn for grain							
1979 . . . . .	317,240	177,654	139,586	44.0	2.43	770,893	339,194
1980 . . . . .	348,400	184,652	163,748	47.0	3.10	1,080,040	507,619
Oats							
1979 . . . . .	55,860	46,364	9,496	17.0	1.30	72,618	12,345
1980 . . . . .	58,743	48,757	9,986	17.0	1.60	93,989	15,978
Wheat							
1979 . . . . .	2,162	156	2,006	92.8	3.70	8,000	7,422
1980 . . . . .	4,365	196	4,169	95.5	3.85	16,805	16,051
Barley							
1979 . . . . .	1,176	612	564	48.0	2.05	2,411	1,156
1980 . . . . .	1,534	583	951	62.0	2.30	3,528	2,187
Soybeans							
1979 . . . . .	10,030	201	9,829	98.0	5.97	59,879	58,679
1980 . . . . .	10,890	196	10,694	98.2	7.40	80,586	79,136
Hay 1/							
1979 . . . . .	12,555	11,726	829	6.6	31.00	389,205	25,699
1980 . . . . .	12,545	11,730	815	6.5	39.50	495,528	32,193

1/Production, farm use, and sales in thousand tons; season average price in dollars per ton.

## MEAT STOCKS HIGHER

Cold storage stocks of red meat and poultry in the Nation at the end of March were above a year earlier. Beef stocks totaled nearly 343 million pounds, up 2 percent from March 31, 1980. Pork supplies in cold storage amounted to 359.2 million pounds, 23 percent more than a year ago. Veal stocks were down 10 percent from last year, while stocks of lamb and mutton were about the same as on March 31, 1980. Total red meat in cold storage was 11 percent more than the previous year.

Cold Storage Stocks of Red Meat and Poultry  
United States, March 31, 1981 and Comparisons

Commodity	Mar. 31 1979	Mar. 31 1980	Feb. 28 1981	Mar. 31 1981	Change from last year
					Percent
1,000 pounds					
FROZEN MEAT					
Beef .....	427,358	335,052	347,886	342,927	+ 2
Pork .....	245,582	291,218	355,911	359,193	+ 23
Veal .....	9,057	9,004	8,370	8,059	-10
Lamb and mutton .....	12,022	7,945	7,843	7,927	n. c.
CANNED MEATS					
IN COOLER					
Hams .....	49,907	38,395	47,461	42,689	+ 11
Other meats .....	18,550	13,768	15,411	13,156	- 4
Total red meat 1/ .....	762,476	695,382	782,882	773,951	+ 11
FROZEN POULTRY					
Chicken, all .....	100,703	149,052	142,305	148,826	n. c.
Turkeys, all .....	135,687	208,900	207,910	219,365	+ 5
Total poultry 2/ .....	238,882	360,992	354,238	371,534	+ 3

1/Excludes cooler beef and cooler pork. 2/Includes frozen ducks.

Turkey stocks at the end of March totaled 219.4 million pounds, up 5 percent from a year earlier. The 148.8 million pounds of frozen chicken in storage were about the same as on March 31, 1980.

## FEEDER PIG PRICE ABOVE YEAR AGO

Wisconsin farmers reported paying an average of \$79.00 per one hundred pounds of feeder pigs in February. This was \$9.00 more than a year earlier and the highest price for any quarter since May 1979.

Wisconsin Feeder Pig Prices 1/

Year	February	May	August	November
	Dollars per cwt.			
1971 .....	22.90	30.00	31.90	34.90
1972 .....	45.10	54.00	58.30	58.80
1973 .....	60.50	77.20	86.20	80.20
1974 .....	76.80	71.00	43.00	44.50
1975 .....	57.50	91.00	99.50	120.00
1976 .....	100.00	110.00	82.50	52.00
1977 .....	57.50	86.00	86.50	86.50
1978 .....	86.00	114.00	106.00	113.00
1979 .....	106.00	99.00	60.00	54.00
1980 .....	70.00	55.00	71.00	78.00
1981 .....	79.00			

1/Prior to 1979, the data were published for the months of January, April, July, and October.

## LIVESTOCK CASH RECEIPTS LOWER IN 1980

Cash receipts from the sale of Wisconsin livestock during 1980 were down 3 percent from 1979. Prices were lower for



all species except lambs. Total receipts from livestock sales in 1980 amounted to \$813 million compared with \$839 million the previous year.

Cattle prices averaged \$50.80 a hundredweight for 1980, a decline of \$3.90 from the record high in 1979. Calves brought an average of \$106.00 a hundredweight in 1980, down \$7.00 from a year earlier.

Hog prices averaged \$38.00 a hundredweight during 1980, a drop of \$3.40 from the previous year and the lowest since 1974. Sheep, at an average of \$16.20 a hundredweight for 1980, were \$3.60 under the record high of 1979. Lambs returned an average of \$63.60 a hundredweight in 1980, an increase of \$1.10 from a year earlier and a record high.

On the pound basis, marketings of cattle and calves during 1980 were nearly the same as in 1979. However, cash receipts from sales of cattle and calves were down 6 percent. Total pounds of hogs marketed in 1980 were 13 percent higher than the previous year but cash receipts increased only 3 percent. Marketings of sheep and lambs for 1980 were up 30 percent from 1979, and returns from sales increased 33 percent.

## FEWER CATTLE ON FEED IN NATION

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the 23 major states totaled 9.8 million head on April 1, a decline of 4 percent from a year ago. This was the lowest number on feed for that date since 1975. Cattle feeders in Wisconsin had 125,000 head on feed April 1, up 4 percent from the previous year.

Placements of cattle and calves on feed in the 23 states during the past quarter were down 1 percent from that quarter last year. Placements in Wisconsin were 18 percent greater than in January-March 1980.

Fed cattle marketings in the 23 states during the first quarter of 1981 were 2 percent under that period of 1980. Marketings for the April through June quarter were also expected to be 2 percent less than a year earlier.

Cattlemen in Wisconsin marketed 22 percent more fed cattle in the first quarter of this year than the previous year. Marketings in the State for April through June were expected to increase 6 percent from the comparable period last year.

### CATTLE AND CALVES: Production and Income Wisconsin, 1971-80

Year	Production 1/ 1,000 pounds	Marketings 2/ 1,000 pounds	Price per 100 pounds Dollars		Cash receipts 1,000 dollars	Value of home consumption 1,000 dollars	Gross income 1,000 dollars
			Cattle	Calves			
1971	1,016,690	906,412	22.50	39.80	229,887	19,594	249,481
1972	1,004,450	961,994	26.70	47.30	287,765	21,500	309,265
1973	936,170	905,644	34.30	58.90	343,707	19,612	363,319
1974	1,024,040	821,048	27.70	38.50	240,571	34,682	275,253
1975	1,032,050	1,033,770	24.90	31.80	268,030	28,760	296,790
1976	1,010,930	1,155,550	27.60	37.10	333,368	22,963	356,331
1977	919,740	1,033,960	27.60	41.20	311,153	17,519	328,672
1978	979,675	978,955	38.90	57.10	415,218	25,971	441,189
1979	994,750	883,475	54.70	113.00	595,214	35,291	630,505
1980	1,000,755	883,605	50.80	106.00	560,008	27,458	587,466

1/Adjustments made for numbers shipped in and changes in inventory. 2/Excludes inter-farm sales.

### HOGS: Production and Income, Wisconsin, 1971-80

Year	Production 1/ 1,000 pounds	Marketings 2/ 1,000 pounds	Price per 100 pounds Dollars		Cash receipts 1,000 dollars	Value of home consumption 1,000 dollars	Gross income 1,000 dollars
			Hogs	Pigs			
1971	725,938	729,530	17.80		129,856	3,004	132,860
1972	611,771	627,934	24.90		156,356	4,622	160,978
1973	562,495	537,912	37.50		201,717	7,518	209,235
1974	553,818	555,130	32.70		181,528	7,063	188,591
1975	436,724	449,370	46.00		206,710	10,184	216,894
1976	482,395	449,524	42.50		191,048	9,376	200,424
1977	516,221	482,120	38.90		187,545	6,766	194,311
1978	574,389	517,642	45.90		237,598	8,388	245,986
1979	605,190	561,584	41.40		240,308	8,684	248,992
1980	627,629	634,714	38.00		248,374	7,495	255,869

1/Adjustments made for numbers shipped in and changes in inventory. 2/Excludes inter-farm sales.

### SHEEP AND LAMBS: Production and Income, Wisconsin, 1971-80

Year	Production 1/ 1,000 pounds	Marketings 2/ 1,000 pounds	Price per 100 pounds Dollars		Cash receipts 1,000 dollars	Value of home consumption 1,000 dollars	Gross income 1,000 dollars
			Sheep	Lambs			
1971	8,587	10,067	5.60	24.80	2,231	35	2,266
1972	8,312	10,799	6.10	27.40	2,591	38	2,629
1973	7,656	9,556	10.00	31.40	2,607	44	2,651
1974	6,935	8,112	8.25	34.80	2,487	49	2,536
1975	5,914	7,334	7.40	38.50	2,394	62	2,456
1976	5,721	7,948	10.70	41.20	2,713	82	2,795
1977	6,518	6,468	10.60	48.20	2,945	145	3,090
1978	6,567	5,080	15.10	58.20	2,905	204	3,109
1979	7,583	5,886	19.80	62.50	3,531	188	3,719
1980	9,092	7,635	16.20	63.60	4,692	191	4,883

1/Adjustments made for numbers shipped in and changes in inventory. 2/Excludes inter-farm sales.



**Cattle and Calves on Feed by Quarters**  
**April 1, 1980, January 1 and April 1, 1981 1/**

State	April 1 1980	January 1 1981	April 1 1981	Change from last year
	1,000 head			Percent
Arizona . . . . .	324	401	346	+ 7
California . . . . .	552	677	526	- 5
Colorado . . . . .	700	845	665	- 5
Idaho . . . . .	239	249	203	-15
Illinois . . . . .	470	510	490	+ 4
Indiana . . . . .	235	280	240	+ 2
Iowa . . . . .	1,335	1,370	1,230	- 8
Kansas . . . . .	1,125	1,100	1,100	- 2
Michigan . . . . .	150	160	145	- 3
Minnesota . . . . .	400	370	405	+ 1
Missouri . . . . .	85	105	80	- 6
Montana . . . . .	49	64	39	-20
Nebraska . . . . .	1,400	1,640	1,450	+ 4
New Mexico . . . . .	194	186	145	-25
North Dakota . . . . .	42	37	38	-10
Ohio . . . . .	165	160	150	- 9
Oklahoma . . . . .	280	325	267	- 5
Oregon . . . . .	53	75	60	+13
Pennsylvania . . . . .	68	78	70	+ 3
South Dakota . . . . .	345	355	310	-10
Texas . . . . .	1,720	1,830	1,520	-12
Washington . . . . .	152	173	154	+ 1
Wisconsin . . . . .	120	115	125	+ 4
23 States . . . . .	10,203	11,105	9,758	- 4

1/Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a full ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade good or better.

## CATTLE AND HOG SLAUGHTER UP

The number of cattle and calves slaughtered in Wisconsin and the Nation during March was higher than a year ago. Nearly 85,000 cattle were slaughtered in Wisconsin plants during March, 3 percent above last year. Federally inspected cow slaughter increased 5 percent, while the kill of steers and heifers declined 1 percent. The National cattle slaughter for March was 13 percent higher than a year earlier.

Hog slaughter in Wisconsin during March totaled 208,200 head, up 3 percent from March 1980. Nationally, hog

slaughter was 2 percent above a year ago, although federally inspected sow slaughter remained the same.

Calf slaughter in Wisconsin for March was 4 percent more than the previous year, while the National calf slaughter was up 8 percent.

The 300 sheep and lambs butchered in Wisconsin during March were equal to a year earlier. Sheep and lamb slaughter in the Nation was 4 percent above March 1980.

## APRIL CROP REPORT

Rainfall during April was above normal in all areas of Wisconsin. Temperatures also averaged above normal except for the week of the 19th through the 25th. Planting of oats was 40 percent completed as of April 26th. This was double the progress of a year earlier and also more advanced than the average of 25 percent from 1971-80. The season's progress for that date was comparable to 1971 and 1976, behind 1977, but ahead of other years. Farmers in the southern counties had begun planting oats after mid-March but some farmers in the north did not have any oats seeded yet in late April due to wet soils. The early planted oats have emerged and are doing well. Spring wheat and barley are being planted. Winter wheat is off to a very good start.

Spring plowing was 30 percent completed by April 26th compared with 18 percent a year earlier and an average of 20 percent from 1971-80. Corn ground is being plowed and prepared. Planting of corn began in southern counties after mid-April but was slowed by cool, wet soils until the last week of the month.

Hay fields and pastures are growing well as moisture is adequate to surplus. Winter survival of hay fields was variable, with some excellent stands and others sparse. Warmer temperatures and normal rainfall in May could result in an early haying season. Planting of early potatoes, peas, and sweet corn became more active in late April. Tobacco seedbeds were being prepared. Fruit trees were near bloom by the end of April.

**Commercial Slaughter, March 1980 and 1981, Wisconsin and United States 1/**

Species and area	Number slaughtered						Total liveweight		
	March			January - March			March		
	1980	1981	Change from last year 2/	1980	1981	Change from last year 2/	1980	1981	Change from last year 2/
	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent	Million pounds		Percent
WISCONSIN									
Cattle, all . . . . .	82.4	84.8	+ 3	268.7	254.7	— 5	99.0	104.0	+ 5
Cows 3/ . . . . .	39.8	41.9	+ 5	136.6	130.4	— 5	—	—	—
Steers and heifers 3/ . .	29.2	29.0	— 1	91.2	85.6	— 6	—	—	—
Calves . . . . .	32.3	33.6	+ 4	104.2	107.8	+ 3	6.6	8.1	+ 23
Hogs, all . . . . .	202.0	208.2	+ 3	593.3	584.8	— 1	47.1	49.3	+ 5
Sows . . . . .	4/	4/	—	4/	4/	—	—	—	—
Sheep and lambs . . . . .	.3	.3	n. c.	.8	1.0	+ 25	27 5/	32 5/	+ 19
UNITED STATES									
Cattle, all . . . . .	2,571	2,915	+ 13	8,145	8,576	+ 5	2,784	3,194	+ 15
Cows 3/ . . . . .	406	470	+ 16	1,358	1,472	+ 8	—	—	—
Heifers 3/ . . . . .	646	735	+ 14	2,039	2,221	+ 9	—	—	—
Steers 3/ . . . . .	1,303	1,464	+ 12	4,079	4,159	+ 2	—	—	—
Calves . . . . .	221	239	+ 8	660	686	+ 4	50	59	+ 17
Hogs, all . . . . .	8,209	8,338	+ 2	24,236	23,657	— 2	1,957	2,006	+ 3
Sows 3/ . . . . .	359	359	n. c.	1,146	1,090	— 5	—	—	—
Sheep and lambs . . . . .	485	505	+ 4	1,380	1,450	+ 5	56	58	+ 3

1/Excludes farm slaughter. 2/Percent change based on unrounded values. 3/Federally inspected only. 4/Federally inspected slaughter not published to avoid disclosing individual operations. 5/Expressed in thousands.



## CATTLE PRICES LOWER

Cattle prices at Wisconsin auction markets declined from February to March. Good and choice Holstein fed steers weighing 1,100 to 1,500 pounds averaged \$53.93 a hundredweight for March, down \$3.36 from the previous month and \$6.65 under last year.

Large frame number two Holstein feeder steers weighing 800 to 1,000 pounds averaged \$51.92 a hundredweight during March, a decline of \$1.30 from February and \$7.52 below a

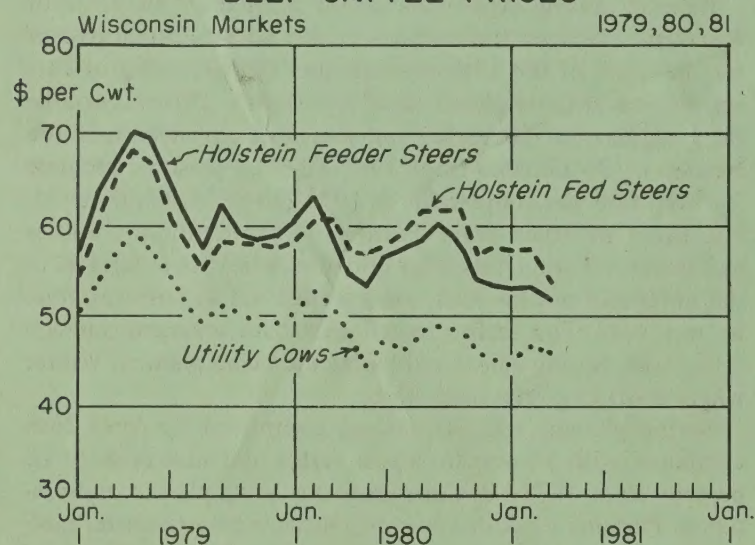
year ago.

Utility cows brought an average of \$46.06 a hundredweight for March, down 67 cents from a month earlier and \$5.25 less than in March 1980.

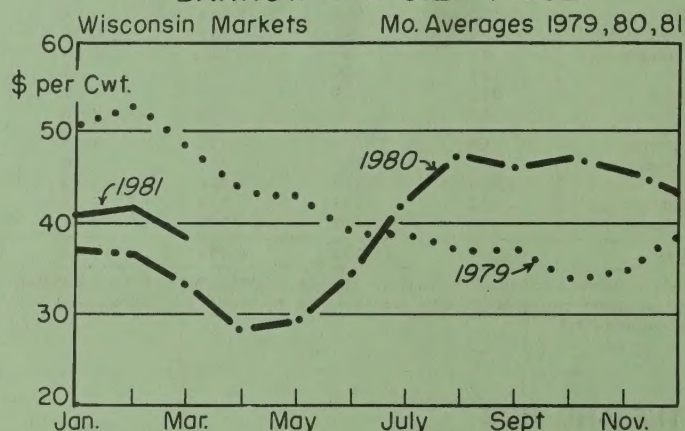
## HOG MARKET DECLINES

Prices paid for barrows and gilts at Wisconsin packing plants and country buying stations averaged \$38.68 a hundredweight during March. This was \$2.92 below the previous month and the lowest price since June 1980. However, the March price was \$5.12 above a year ago.

### BEEF CATTLE PRICES



### BARROW and GILT PRICES



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